



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

**STROHM et al**

Atty. Ref.: **496-34**

Serial No. **09/744,159**

Group: **1723**

Filed: **January 22, 2001**

Examiner: **Ocampo**

For: **FILTER MODULE**

*H. J. Duth*  
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June 24, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed concurrently with a formal Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and is intended to be responsive to the issues raised in the "final" Official Action dated January 15, 2003.

Therefore, prior to examination pursuant to the RCE request, please amend the above-identified application as noted in the following sections. In this regard, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.121, each section of the subject Amendment (e.g., Claim Amendments, Specification Amendments, Drawing Amendments and Remarks) as may be appropriate to the issues raised in the Official Action to which this paper responds, begins on a separate page. Changes to the original text, claims and the like are shown by striking through language to be deleted and underlining of language to be added.